BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: <u>2/19/03</u>	Division: <u>Judicial</u>
Bulk Item: Yes X No	Department: Guardian ad Litem
AGENDA ITEM WORDING:	
Approval to apply for a Court Appointed	1 Special Advocate (CASA) grant.
*	
volunteers and to use all available resour application will be made for \$80,000 for	n ad Litem program seeks to increase the number of rees in order to assure quality advocacy for children. An a Program Expansion Grant and \$20,000 for a diversity ervices. There is no match or in-kind required from Monroe
PREVIOUS REVELANT BOCC ACT	ION: None
CONTRACT /AGREEMENT CHANG	SES: None
TOTAL COST:\$100,000	DIDCETED, V., ATA
101AL COS1:	BUDGETED: Yes No No
COST TO COUNTY: 0	Source of Funds: N/A
REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No	O X AMOUNT PER MONTH Year
CG/	MB/Purchasing Risk Management
DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:	Theresa D. Westerfield T. D. Wosterfeeld TYPE NAME HERE
DOCUMENTATION: Included X	To Follow Not Required
DISPOSITION:	AGENDA ITEM # 0/



SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA MONROE COUNTY

ALEXNANDRA CORSTLETO
CIRCUIT DIRECTOR

GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM

P. O. BOX 15796 5503 COLLEGE RI) STE. 2036 KEY WEST. FL 33045 1EL: (305) 292-3485 FAX (305) 295-3659 SUNCOM 494-3485

January 31, 2003

Theresa Westerfield, Trial Court Administrator Monroe County Courthouse 500 Whitehead Street Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Ms. Westerfield;

The Guardian Ad Litem Program of the 16th Judicial District is making application for National CASA grants for both Program Expansion and Program Staff Diversity. The circuit Guardian Ad Litem Program goals and objectives mirror those of the National CASA grants programs as we seek to increase the number of volunteers and to use all available resources in order to assure quality advocacy for children. The national goal of increasing the diversity of the GAL staff is also in alignment with local program objectives.

Enclosed are copies of CASA documents outlining the funding objectives, summary of funding categories, grant amounts and time periods. Requirements for 2003 grantees, application instructions and information related to grant budgets are also a part of the informational packet.

I feel that our location, topography and the diversity of the population we serve will demonstrate the uniqueness and importance of our program. The awarding of the Program Expansion Grant would result in funding in the amount of \$80,000, paid over a two year period and used for a new position of Community Resource Coordinator. This position will develop and implement programs for volunteer recruitment and retention, establish a speaker's bureau, and assist in identifying and securing funding for new areas of service. The diversity grant of \$20,00 would be used to provide funding for translation services. This service would provide support for coordinators and families by assisting with delivery of services and by the translation all program documents and informational handouts into the various languages of the populations we serve.

We thank you for your interest and assistance. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Laury County

alexsa Leto

National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association Request for Proposals 2003 Grants Program Announcement

National CASA Association 100 W. Harrison, North Tower, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98119 (800) 628-3233

> www.nationalcasa.org www.casanet.org





Introduction

Summary of Funding Categories

To achieve the grant program objectives, National CASA will award grants in the following three categories: New Program Development, Program Expansion, and State Organization. Supplemental funding is also available in two categories: Urban Initiative Program Matching and Program Staff Diversity.

Based on grant funding awarded in previous years, National CASA anticipates the following distribution of 2003 grant awards:

debregation and sections and sections	
New Program Development	14–22
Program Expansion	36-44
State Organizations	1826
Urban Initiative Program Matching	2-6
Program Staff Diversity	2-6

Grant Amounts and Time Periods

Grant amounts are based on research analyzing average program costs, past experience of National CASA grantees, and the observations and experience of National CASA staff and grant reviewers.

All grant awards will be for a two-year period in order to allow sufficient time to develop a strong organizational foundation. The 2003 grant period will begin July 1, 2003 and end June 30, 2005, subject to the availability of OJJDP funding.

Except as noted in the Supplemental Funding Options section, the maximum two-year grant amounts are \$120,000 for the State Organization Grant and \$80,000 for the New Program Development and Expansion grants. Reviewers may recommend a lower amount based on need, grant activities, and the justification for and content of the proposed budget.

Programs that received a grant award from National CASA for the grant period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2004 are *not* eligible to participate in the 2003 grants program.

Introduction]

The National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (National CASA) is pleased to announce 2003 grant funding opportunities.

The National CASA grants program is authorized to distribute funds under the Victims of Child Abuse Act (P.L. 101-647) for the purpose of increasing the number of CASA volunteers and the proportion of abused and neglected children represented by CASA volunteers. These funds may only be used to serve abused and neglected children who are the subjects of civil child abuse proceedings.

Grant funds will be awarded to state and selected local CASA and guardian ad litem programs through sub-grants administered by National CASA. The grants program is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) through a cooperative agreement with the National CASA Association.

Grant recipients are selected by an independent organization using a competitive application process. Independent reviewers evaluate and score all grant proposals. Reviewers are not affiliated with National CASA or any state or local CASA organization, but are familiar with the work and mission of CASA/Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) programs. The review criteria are included in the grant application.

Implementation of the 2003 National CASA grants program is contingent on an appropriation by the U.S. Congress anticipated in early 2003 and subsequent approval by the OJJDP.

The objectives of the 2003 National CASA grants program are

- to increase the number of CASA programs and volunteers, especially where no program currently exists and in areas where representation rates are low;
- to help CASA programs become effective, well-managed organizations that make efficient use of all available resources in order to assure quality advocacy for children; and
- to increase the diversity of CASA and GAL program staff.

Requirements for 2003 Grantees

General Requirements

- All grant recipients will be required to be members of the National CASA Association prior to receipt of grant funds.
- Grant recipients must demonstrate compliance with National CASA standards by submitting the completed self-assessment to National CASA within one year of the start of the grant period.
- Grantees will complete and submit the annual Program Survey distributed by National CASA.
- Grantees will acknowledge affiliation with National CASA on all brochures, newsletters, news releases, stationery, and annual reports produced during the grant period by including one of the following: the CASA logo; the words "A CASA Program; or the words "A Member of the National CASA Association."
- Grant recipients are required to acquire and maintain the technological capacity to
 access the Internet and communicate via e-mail. (Applicants may allocate grant
 funds for the purchase or upgrade of computer equipment to meet this requirement.)
- Grantees will be required to send at least one representative to the State
 Director/Grantee meeting in 2003. Grantees are also required to have one participant attend the 2004 and 2005 National CASA Conference.
- All grantees are required to establish and maintain accounting systems and financial records to accurately account for funds they receive. These records shall include total program costs, including National CASA funds and any other fund sources included in the approved program budget.

Disbursement of Funds

National CASA expects to disburse grant funds in eight (8) equal amounts at the beginning of each of the eight (8) quarters of the grant period. If a grantee estimates that expenditures for a quarter will exceed one-eighth of the total grant amount, the grantee may request the excess amount by written request explaining the anticipated expenditures. The disbursement for the quarter following the excess disbursement will be reduced by the excess amount. Grantees are instructed to budget their grant funds in a manner that conforms to the practice of maintaining cash on hand in an amount that does not earn more than \$250 in interest during the fiscal year.

Documents

Before a grant recipient receives any disbursement of funds, National CASA requires the submission of the following documents:

- A signed Terms and Conditions Agreement
- A data sheet that shows the organization's updated fiscal year budget including the National CASA grant, the type of accounting system used, a copy of the written

[Requirements for 2003 Grantees]

policy of internal financial controls, and names of the individual(s) responsible for preparing the quarterly financial reports

 A copy of the program's most recently completed audit report or year-end financial statement

National CASA staff will review these documents in order to identify areas of concern and issues that indicate training and technical assistance are needed. National CASA provides information to all grantees about audit requirements, procurement of audit services, audit review standards, and other elements of audit management. In addition to general information and training provided to all grantees, National CASA maintains an ongoing relationship with each individual grantee and communicates regularly regarding specific issues and needs of each one.

Accounting System

The grantee is responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of accounting and internal controls. An acceptable and adequate accounting system is considered to be one that

- properly accounts for receipt of funds under each funding source by category of expenditure;
- assures that expended funds are applied to the appropriate budget category included within the approved grant budget;
- presents and classifies historical costs of the grant as required for budgetary and evaluation purposes;
- provides adequate cost controls to assure optimal use of grant funds;
- is integrated with a system of internal controls adequate to safeguard the funds and assets of the program, check the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and assure conformance with the terms and conditions of the grant;
- meets the prescribed requirements for periodic financial reporting of operations; and
- provides financial data for planning and evaluation of costs and budget projections.

Reporting

Grantees are required to report quarterly financial information which details grant fund expenditures. They are also required to provide semi-annual updates on the activities funded by grant funds and to provide documentation regarding the projected tasks which have been completed and those that have not been completed. For those which have not been accomplished, the grantee must provide an explanation and justification for why they have not been completed. These reports are reviewed by National CASA staff (follow up technical assistance and monitoring are provided if appropriate)

p.8

Application Instructions

1. Applicant Information Sheet

This sheet provides reviewers with quick identifying facts about your program and the community that you serve. The presence of complete and accurate information that is substantiated in the project narrative section provides the reviewer with a positive impression of your program.

The requested summary of previous National CASA Association grant projects, if applicable, should present an accurate picture of your outcomes (i.e. increase of children served, increase of volunteers recruited).

2. Board of Directors Information Sheet

This worksheet will provide reviewers with information about your board of directors.

3. Project Narrative Questions

Your answers to the project narrative questions should be no longer than necessary, and may not exceed a total of eight (8) single-spaced pages on 8 1/2 x 11-inch paper. Margins must be at least 1 inch and type must be at least 12 point in size.

The budget forms, activity schedule, and other required attachments are not included in the 8-page limit.

4. Activity Schedule

This form is designed to provide detail to support the goals proposed in the grant narrative, and show when you expect these to be accomplished during the two-year grant period. All proposed activities should be set forth so that a reviewer can see a logical progression of tasks and relate those tasks directly to the accomplishment of the goals.

Grantees are required to submit narrative progress reports every six months based on this activity's plan, so be realistic about what you will do and when you will do it. Examples of such activities include recruiting and hiring staff, designing recruitment materials, conducting volunteer training, securing office space, etc. Include the task of completing quarterly financial and semi-annual narrative progress reports.

5. Financial Information Sheet

Explain any "no" responses on a separate page.

6. Grant Budget Sheet

None of the existing staff salaries or expenses may be supported with Program Expansion Grant funds. Grant funds must be used for new staff positions and expenses directly associated with the expansion.

[Application Instructions]

The Grant Budget Sheet should provide your proposed budget for the National CASA grant funds only. Do <u>not</u> include funds from other sources on this page. All numbers must be rounded to the nearest whole dollar. The total grant budget should be the same as the amount of grant funds requested.

Include items that are directly related to the project activities. Each task listed on the Activity Schedule that has a cost should be included and explained in the budget.

National CASA grants are federal funds, and therefore subject to specific restrictions. Grant funds may be used for direct expenditures related to the funded project such as: personnel; volunteer and staff travel (including per diem expenses); volunteer and staff training; recruitment and training materials; printing; office supplies; furniture and equipment; rent and utilities; postage; and insurance costs.

Grant funds may not be used for:

- Bad Debts
- Bonuses
- Commissions
- Contingencies
- · Contributions and Donations
- Entertainment
- Recognition Banquet and Items
- Fines and Penalties
- Interest and Other Financial Costs
- Pre-award Costs
- Lobbying
- Food Costs for Training
- Refreshments
- Social Activities
- Fundraising

Costs of organized fundraising, including financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred solely to raise capital or obtain contributions, may not be charged either as direct or indirect costs against the award. Neither the salary of persons engaged in such activities nor indirect costs associated with those salaries may be charged to the award.

- 501 (c)(3) Non-profit Incorporation
- Capital Improvements

Application Instructions

The following grant activities are required for all 2003 grantees. These expenses can be included in your grant budget:

National CASA Conferences

The grant budget may include expenses for sending the required one representative to the 2004 and the 2005 National CASA Conference (2004 - Washington, DC/2005 - location to be determined).

- New Program, Program Expansion, and State Grantee Meeting
 Grant applicants in the expansion category should budget for one representative to attend a two-day grantee training meeting in 2003 (location to be determined).
 When possible, this should be the individual who will be responsible for implementation or management of the grant project activities.
- Online Computer Capability

All grantee organizations are required to acquire and maintain the technological capacity for participating in online computerized reporting, communications and access to services. Applicants may allocate grant funds for expenses of purchasing or upgrading equipment, if needed, to meet National CASA recommendations. This expense cannot exceed \$1,500.00.

7. Grant Budget Narrative Sheet

The budget narrative should provide enough detail to explain what the expense is for and to show how the total expense was calculated. Your budget should <u>not</u> contain expenses that are not directly related to the project activities. Provide sufficient detail to justify the total amount budgeted in each category of the grant budget and show how the cost for each requested item was computed.

Personnel expenses can be charged for staff in proportion to their effort on the project activities.

Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits of the staff to be paid by the grant should be described. If percentages are used, include a description of the elements used in determining the percentage rate.

Travel costs and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the applicant organization. If the applicant does not have an established travel policy, then travel rates must be consistent with National CASA's. The budget narrative should include an explanation of the rate used, including the components of the per diem rate and the basis for the estimated transportation expenses. The purpose of the travel should also be included in the narrative.

Training costs for staff and volunteers should be shown separately and described clearly. Do <u>not</u> place costs associated with travel, such as airfare, per diem, hotels, etc., in this category. These expenses should be placed in the "travel" category. This

[Application Instructions]

category should include registration fees or costs associated with staff or volunteer training such as room rental, training materials, etc.

Printing/Photocopying should be included in the budget narrative with the details underlying these estimates in support of the request.

Supplies necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project should be included. The applicant should provide a general description of the supplies included with an explanation of the basis for the amount requested for this expenditure. The cost of project related mailings should be described in this category. The basis for postage estimates should be included in the justification.

Equipment purchases essential to accomplishing the goals of the grant may be charged to the grant. The applicant should describe the equipment, clearly identify whether it is to be purchased or leased and explain why that equipment is necessary to achieve project goals. The budget narrative should also explain how the cost was calculated. There is a limit of \$1,500.00 for purchase of computer, printer, and software. The purchase of LCD projectors with grant funds is not allowed.

Rent/Utilities should be described separately and the basis for the calculation explained. A request for payment of all rent and/or utility costs (including telephone and internet costs) should be justified. If a percentage of these expenses is requested, the basis for calculating the percentage should be explained in the budget narrative.

Other costs should include an explanation of all other kinds of expenses such as insurance, and National CASA membership dues. If you are part of an umbrella organization that charges indirect costs, describe how your indirect costs are allocated. Please break down all your indirect costs.

Organizations that expend \$300,000 or more in federal financial assistance during their fiscal year are required to conduct an A-133 Single Audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) for that fiscal year. Audit costs relative to the amount of the National CASA grant may be included in the grant budget. If your organization qualifies for an A-133 Signal Audit, audit costs relative to the amount of the National CASA grant may be included in the grant budget.

8. Program Operating Budget Sheet (Current Fiscal Year Budget)

Provide your current fiscal year budget. This should <u>not</u> include anticipated income from the proposed 2003–2005 National CASA grant. Please specify the sources of revenue including which funds are federal funds.

9. Letters of Support/Recommendation

The letters of support/recommendation must be included with the application packet. Do <u>not</u> send letters separately. You may submit only four letters of support/recommendation.

Board of Directors Information Sheet

List the applicant's board of directors, including each member's current employer and relevant skills and expertise brought to the organization. Use attachments as necessary.

	TANKS TO SELECT ON THE SELECT OF THE SELECT					
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3						
4						
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6						
7					•	•
8						
9						
10					·	
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						

-	Financial Inf	ormation	mation Sheet		
	5 points J.For each question, check the appropriate box. Explain any ac space provided.	"no" respo	onses in		
G	eneral	Yes	No		
1.	Is the board of directors responsible for authorizing all bank account and check signers?	nts			
2.	Are grants maintained by fund accounts?				
3.	Are dual signatures required for all checks?				
4.	Are financial reports presented to the board of directors monthly?				
5.	Is an annual financial review or audit conducted by a qualified outside auditor?				
<i>If</i>	a "no" box is checked, please provide an explanation:				
		•	•		
Cs	ash Receipts	Yes	No		
6.	Are cash receipts immediately deposited?				
7.	Is incoming cash counted and are receipts/bank deposits slips completed by two or more persons authorized to perform these functions?				
8.	Are records of cash received totaled and initialed by authorized employees?				
9.	Are cash collection documentation totals compared and reconciled to bank deposit receipts on a regular basis?	, _□			
10.	Are bank deposit receipts compared and attached to the original bank deposit slips?				
If a	"no" box is checked, please provide an explanation				

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Cash Disbursements	Yes	No
11. Does the Executive Director provide prior approval for all disbursements?		
12. Does supporting documentation accompany checks when presented for signature?		
13. Is there a policy or procedure prohibiting making checks payable to Cash or Bearer?		
14. Are pre-numbered checks used and always in sequence?		
15. Is blank check stock locked up?		
16. Are checks prepared from vendor invoices only and not from a vendor statement?		
17. Do only persons authorized to prepare checks have access to check stock?		
18. Are expense records reviewed and authorized prior to payment?		
19. Is signing of blank checks strictly prohibited?		
If a "no" box is checked, please provide an explanation:		
Reconciliation	Yes	No
20. Are bank accounts reconciled on a monthly basis, and reviewed by the Executive Director or someone other than the person reconciling or making disbursement?		
21. Does the Executive Director or someone other than the person reconciling or making disbursement receive the bank statements (with canceled checks, etc.) unopened from the bank?		
If a "no" has is checked please provide on evolunation.		

Grant Budget Sheet

[10 points with Grant Budget Narrative Sheet] Detail the use of National CASA grant funds. Budget figures must be rounded to the nearest whole dollar; do <u>not</u> use cents. Specify additional expenses in the space provided. Boxes 1–18 correspond to those used in the Grant Budget Narrative Sheet. Total grant budget must equal amount of grant funds requested. See Application Instructions for allowable costs.

Program Name:

City/State:

Grant Period: July 1, 2003-June 30, 2005

Budget Line Items Yea	r 1 Year 2	Total
Personnel Salaries	(Box 1)	
FICA (7.65%)	(Box 2)	
Unemployment	(Box 3)	
Workers Compensation	(Box 4)	
Retirement	(Box 5)	
Medical	(Box 6)	
Dental	(Box 7)	
Other Benefit Expense ()	(Box 8)	
Travel	(Box 9)	
Training	(Box 10)	
Printing/Copying	(Box 11)	
Supplies	(Box 12)	
Equipment	(Box 13)	
Rent/Utilities	(Box 14)	
Other Expense ()	(Box 15)	
Other Expense ()	(Box 16)	
Other Expense ()	(Box 17)	
fotal Grant Request		

Grant Budget Narrative Sheet

[10 points with Grant Budget Sheet] For each budget category, detail the anticipated expenditures and show how the calculation was made. For line items that do not apply to your project, please write N/A.

Program Name:

City/State:

Grant Period: July 1, 2003-June 30, 2005

Personnel Salaries: \$(Box 1)

FICA (7.65%): \$(Box 2)

Unemployment: \$(Box 3)

Workers' Compensation: \$(Box 4)

Retirement: \$(Box 5)

Medical: \$(Box 6)

Dental: \$(Box 7)

[Application Instructions]

Program Expansion Grant proposals require letters of support/recommendation from the following sources:

- The presiding judge responsible for child abuse and neglect matters
 (A form is provided for this purpose for your convenience. A letter originating from the judge is also acceptable.)
- The president of the board of directors <u>or</u> the chief administrator, if the program is part of a court or public agency <u>or</u> the executive director, if the program is part of an umbrella agency
- The state CASA/GAL organization, if one exists
- A community agency

```
Grant Budget Narrative Sheet
  Other (specify): $(Box 8)
  Travel: $(Box 9)
  Grantee Meeting (2003 - Location TBD):
  Airfarc:
  Hotel:
 Per Diem:
 Other (specify):
 National CASA Conferences (2004 - Washington, DC/2005 - Location TBD):
 Airfare:
 Hotel:
 Per Diem:
 Other (specify):
 Volunteer Mileage
Purpose:
       miles @.
                      per mile =
Staff Mileage
Purpose:
      miles @ .
                     per mile =
Other (specify):
```

	[Grant Dudget Narrative Sheet	1
Training: \$(Bóx 10)		-
National CASA Conference registra	ation for 2003 and 2005 (not to exceed \$300 per year)	
Other (specify):		
Printing/Copying: \$(Box 11)		
,		
Supplies: \$(Box 12)		
Office Supplies:		
Postage:		
Othon (on a if)		
Other (specify):		
Equipment: \$(Box 13)		
Computer/Printer (not to exceed \$1,50	00):	
•		
Other (specify):		
Rent/Utilities: \$(Box 14)	- ·	
Cent:	•	
		•
Teiliein.		
ftilities:		

		Grant Budget Narrative Sheet]
Telephone:		
Internet Service Provider:		
Other (specify):		
Other Expenses: \$(Box 15, 16, 17)	•	
NCASAA Membership:		
Insurance:		
	•	
Other (specify):		
Total Grant Request: \$	• .	

[10 points with Project Narrative Questions on Program Sustainability] Provide your current fiscal year operating budget. Include all program operating costs, organized by funding source. Specify the name of each funding source in the space provided. To include additional funding sources, copy the worksheet and submit an additional page. If you have multiple funding sources that are in the same general category, group them as one (i.e. state funds, foundation funds, unrestricted funds, etc.). Unless your program is actual totals from the fiscal year prior.

Program Name:

City/State:

Fiscal Year Begins:

Fiscal Year Ends:

Budget Line Items	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3	Source 4	Source 5	Total	Previous Year
Personnel Salaries		 			,		Program Actuals
FICA (7.65%)							
Unemployment			ļ				
Workers' Compensation							
Retirement	<u> </u>						
Medical							
Dental							
Other Benefit Expense (7						
Travel	<u> </u>						
Training							
Printing/Copying							
Supplies							
Equipment							
Rent/Utilities							•
Other Expense ()							
Other Expense ()							
Other Expense ()							
Total			·				